



CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATION UPDATE December 1, 2013

2014-2015 Big Sky Pathway Submission Process

If your high school is planning to submit a new Big Sky Pathway for 2014-2015, please take a look at the **Submission Kit** and the link to the **Montana Big Sky Pathway Implementation Guide** that can be found here: <http://mus.edu/BigSkyPathways/default.asp>

The *Submission Kit* explains when pathway approval is required, explains the approval process, contains the forms required for submission, and lists the timeline for submitting a new/revised pathway. This is a joint project between the Office of Public Instruction and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) as a requirement of the Carl D. Perkins federal grant.

If you have questions about the 2014-2015 pathway submission process, please contact one or more of the following specialists:

Kali Wicks, High School to College Pathways Program Manager; Phone: 406.444.0313; Email: kwicks@montana.edu.

Postsecondary College Pathway Coordinators contact information located at this link: <http://mus.edu/BigSkyPathways/PathwayCoordinators.asp>

Secondary OPI CTE Program Specialists contact information located at this link: http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_17.

Fall 2013 CTE Data Collection CONTINUES

The Fall 2013 CTE Data Collection began on October 1 and ends December 31, 2013. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection. Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2012-2013) and graduated in the spring of 2013 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status. After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator. All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2012-2013 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection--called the '*Quick Reference Guide*' for the Fall CTE Data Collection--are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page listed in Reports and Data and also on the **Secondary CTE** web page under the '**Data Collections**' tab located at this link: http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_6.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to verify the list of CTE Concentrators from what your district submitted last spring. Any additions, corrections, or changes to the list of CTE Concentrators must be made no later than **November 15, 2013**, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your school.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email opiainhelp@mt.gov. Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Diana Fiedler, Perkins Accountability Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email dfiedler@mt.gov.



Montana Career Information System (MCIS) Update

Training for MCIS is well underway. So far this school year 446 people have participated in training. A major focus of training has been on the staff accounts and administration tools. This has resulted in a 110% increase in administration tool use over last year. Overall MCIS usage is up 14.3% and there has been a 26% increase in the number of portfolio logins over last year at this time.

In talking to teachers and counselors this fall, we've found that some are having students log in with the General Use or zip code login. When students log into MCIS using the General Use login, your school will not be able to capture usage data. With more and more emphasis on data for federal reports, it becomes even more important to get a true picture of how effectively your school is using MCIS. We'd like to get the word out that students should log in under the school's username and password and then immediately set up a portfolio. If you have students who have created portfolios under the General Use login, please contact MCIS staff at 800-541-3904 and they will find your students and move them under your school's account. Some schools have students using the correct login procedure to take assessments but aren't having their students create portfolios. That is comparable to giving students a paper and pencil assessment and then throwing the results away when they are done. In order for assessments or any of the work done in MCIS to benefit students, they need to be able to refer to the results, explore their options, and create their plans for the future. By using a portfolio students can have access to all their work long after graduating from high school or college.

Feedback on the new design for MCIS has been overwhelmingly positive. The CIS consortium of 22 states is working on enhancing some additional features of MCIS such as giving Reality Check a fresh look. Your feedback will help us provide input to the programmers working on this project. MCIS is seeking nominations for individuals interested in being part of an MCIS users group. We're looking for people who are familiar with the program and are willing to offer suggestions and feedback on the system. We would like representation from middle schools, high schools, and colleges. This will not require travel on the part of user group members. Email the name(s), email address, and phone number of all nominees to mcrn@mt.gov.

There are two MCIS Webinars in December on the 10th and the 17th. For information on how to register go to www.careers.mt.gov and click on the latest newsletter.

**MCIS information submitted by MCIS Director, Annette Miller, phone: (406) 444-2741;
Email: anmiller@mt.gov. For training requests or technical support, contact Pam Boggs or Donetta McDowell at (800) 541-3904 or email mcrn@mt.gov.**

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

No update at this time.

FFA



Winter is officially here, with a few inches of snow on the ground and a chilly 12 degrees outside, it is December. With the chill in the air and snow on the ground comes a busy month for FFA.

We just finished our second largest event of the year, John Deere Ag Expo. This was an incredible event put on by our FFA Foundation, a huge thank you to Jaime Edmundson, Chase Rose and Karissa Floerchinger. John Deere Ag Expo was held November 14-16 on the MSU campus. It was wonderful to be back in Bozeman and on campus. Thursday was the big kickoff with dinner and a keynote from Jon Knokey, former MSU Bobcat, MSU Alum and now manager of John Deere's data analytic expansion. Thursday's dinner was also welcomed by words from MSU's President, Waded Cruzado. She commended students are there engagement in FFA, her love of agriculture and FFA and of course encouraged all students to look at the Blue and Gold when considering college. It was such a pleasure to have President Cruzado join us for dinner, speak to the 960 attendees and stay afterwards for conversations and pictures. As John Deere Ag Expo came to a close on Saturday, awards were presented, students recognized for their outstanding participation and 600 students, advisors and guests prepared to attend the MSU football game. We wrapped up on Saturday afternoon with



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1,425 students, advisors, sponsors and judges present for the three days. What an event, we look forward to next year and being back at MSU for the 3rd annual John Deere Ag Expo.

With Expo behind us, we look forward to a busy time. Even though colleges will be on break for almost a month, high schoolers will be out of school for a week or so, that does not mean the state officers will be less busy. As the Christmas holiday and the New Year are gaining on us, the state officers begin chapter visits. The eight state officers will spend a few weeks of their Christmas break traveling the state visiting several chapters. The officers break into pairs and visit eight districts. Now, the officers will not visit all of the chapters during break, but will continue visits once school is back in session and through January and possibly February. The eight officers will visit all of our 87 FFA chapters around the state. It is quite the feat for the officers, but one they love.

December also means we start looking towards state FFA convention in March. So much to plan and prepare for, that we start after Thanksgiving break and the officers have a lot to work on while they are away during winter break. Officers will begin working on scripts, retiring addresses and committees they have selected to be on. With the end of one year and the beginning of a new one, things are always busy and exciting. Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and have a very Merry Christmas!

FFA information submitted by Montana FFA State Director, Amanda Carlson, phone: (406) 994-7050; Email: ffaamandac@yahoo.com.

Submitted by

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Business Education

Montana Business Educators Selected to Attend Regional Professional Development Institute

Two Montana business educators have been selected to attend a regional professional development training to be held in Portland, Oregon, in February. Kerri Cobb (Bozeman High School) and Beth Lawrence (Garfield County District High School) were selected by the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) as the two Montana representatives for the Western Business Education Association's Professional Development Institute.

The 15th Annual Professional Development Institute will be held February 14, 2014, during the 2014 Western Business Education Association Conference. The training topics include leadership qualities, communication styles, the organizational structures of the regional and national Executive Boards, Programs of Work, Bylaws, team building, goal setting, meeting management, convention planning, and personal visits from regional and national officers.

The health and relevancy of professional associations at the local, regional, and national levels rely on the involvement of teachers and administrators who will share their talents and time for the betterment of our profession. The Professional Development Institute is sponsored by Western Business Education Association WBEA and each of the western region associations, including the Montana Business Education Association.

The Western Business Education Association as the western regional affiliate of the National Business Education Association and seeks to share educational experiences that will prepare individuals to excel as consumers, workers, and citizens in our economic systems and understand the workings of and opportunities to excel as they function in our competitive global economy. The Western Business Education Association is comprised of the 15 western states and Canadian provinces, including Alberta, British Columbia, and Yukon.



Montana BPA



Montana BPA Advisors have been working diligently on their Quarterly Business Professionals of America Service Reports regarding the activities they have been doing with their chapter members. These activities include fundraising, leadership activities, service activities, public relations, and recruitment.

Regional Conferences begin December 9 in Baker with Region 7's Conference. Region 6's conference is December 17-18 at the City College in Billings. The other six regional conferences will be held in January.

The CTSO Advisors/Directors will be meeting in Bozeman on December 9 to discuss the CTSO 2-year grant requirements and the quarterly reports each organization is diligently working on.

The State Conference is also fast approaching--March 9-11, 2014. The state officers have been busy preparing for the state conference with several conference calls and a fall meeting in Helena in October. They will meet again the middle of January in Helena, and combine that state conference preparation meeting with a chance to visit with the Governor. They have also been busy sending their second buddy letters to chapter advisors in their regions and working on a second officer newsletter which will be published the middle of December.

Montana BPA information submitted by Montana BPA State Director, Becky DePuydt, phone: (406) 674-5593; cell phone: (406) 390-5196, Email: beckydepuydt@bpamt.org

Montana DECA



Montana DECA is starting to gear up for the 2014 State Conference, which will be held in Great Falls this year, February 9-11. The State Officers are putting their finishing touches on the planning and advisors have received their registration packets.

This year Montana DECA received 5 very creative entries for our annual Trading Pin contest. The winning design has been sent to DECA Inc. for final review and then the pin will be produced. The trading pin is used as conversation starter and group warm up while we attend ICDC. Thank you to all the participants and the winning design will receive \$50.

December 7th is the deadline for the State Conference Program Cover Design contest. This year the theme is "**Mission Impossible.**" Any student can enter their design, they do NOT need to be involved with DECA. The design simply needs to be submitted in a .jpeg format and reflect the current theme. All entries have a chance to win \$50 if they have the winning design. Have students visit with the DECA Advisor in their school for more details!

DECA's scholarship program for the 2013-2014 school year is now [open](#) and accepting applications. The deadline to submit applications is **January 17, 2014**.

DECA's scholarship program provides over \$300,000 in scholarships at the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) each year, many of which come from DECA's corporate partners.

Following is a link to DECA Direct newsletter with the article providing a list of the generous corporate sponsors that are funding the program. <http://www.decadirect.org/September-2013/2013-2014-DECA-Scholarship-Program-Now-Open/> Montana DECA wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

DECA information submitted by Montana DECA State Director, Krista Bergstrom, phone: (406) 750-1988; Email: kberg151@gmail.com.

Submitted by

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Family and Consumer Sciences Education

No update at this time.

Montana FCCLA



Montana Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) completed several district meetings throughout the state of Montana in November. At each district meeting, our state officers coordinate educational leadership programming for our members, conduct the business of the organization and elect new state officers for the upcoming year.

FCCLA information submitted by Montana FCCLA State Director, Nicole Wanago, phone: (406) 581-7285; Email: nicole.wanago@mtfccla.org.

Respectfully submitted by

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Health Sciences Education

The Health Science Education Specialist continues to work with the MT Health Care Workforce Advisory Board to assess and respond to health care workforce needs in MT. Currently this board is discussing Patient-Centered Medical Homes and Care Coordination as it relates to the Affordable Care Act. Post-secondary representatives and many health professional organizations get together once a month for discussions.

November 21 was National Rural Health Day and activities included webinars on topics as diverse as AgriSafe-Protecting the People Who Feed America, The Basics of Rural Health, Population-based Health and Health Promotion, and the Affordable Care Act in Rural America.

Here's an interesting (if disturbing) fact in favor of establishing more health science programs in rural schools—Montana has twelve counties that do not have any doctors in their county, forcing rural residents to drive long distances for care. Coupled with the fact that in the next ten years, Montana's population over the age of 60 is expected to be the third highest in the nation (per capita), our state will require even more care coordination to reach health care demands.

Montana HOSA



The last of our five regional Fall workshops took place at Bozeman High School on Saturday, November 9. Almost 200 students/advisors attended these regional workshops, quadrupling attendance from last year's numbers! A new chapter advisor webinar was broadcast on November 18 and was recorded for ongoing access. The Webinar is available through a link on the www.montanahosa.org website. National HOSA is also offering a New Chapter Training via webinar on December 10. If you would like to participate in this webinar, please sign up at: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/890395158>. For more information on starting a HOSA chapter, please contact Megan Bones.

HOSA information submitted by Montana HOSA State Director, Megan Bones, phone: (406) 457-8023; Email: megan@mtha.org.



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To your health,

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Industrial, Trades and Technology Education

Great Falls High School House

The Great Falls Public Schools, in partnership with NeighborWorks Great Falls, a housing redevelopment agency, and the city of Great Falls, offers a construction tech class for students at Great Falls High School and C.M. Russell High School. Students build from the ground up two houses each year that are sold to low and moderate income buyers through NeighborWorks. Roughly 25 students annually take this course for credit and become eligible for college credit. In addition, interior design students from Family and Consumer Sciences classes at both high schools do a design competition for the houses' interiors, and then the students assist in painting and furnishing. This is the 17th year of the partnership and houses Nos. 32 and 33 are under construction. Students qualify to take the course by taking a pre-construction course. They are eligible for the class junior and senior years. The houses are energy efficient and there is a goal to use all American made materials. Community businesses donate to program, such as Falls Construction, which for years has donated the excavation of the houses' foundations. Pro-Build has held fundraising events to support the high school house program. SkillsUSA Montana Advisor Pete Pace oversees this great program!

WIN Scholarship Program for Collision Repair/Refinishing Students

The Women's Industry Network (WIN) offers scholarships that will provide tuition assistance as well as educational opportunities and enrichment events to qualified applicants.

The College Student Tuition and Conference Scholarship Award is presented to students (male or female) enrolled in a postsecondary/college collision repair/refinishing technology program. Each scholarship recipient will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue their postsecondary education in collision repair, a one-year WIN membership, plus the registration fee and travel expenses to attend the 2014 Education Conference.

The High School Tuition Scholarship Award is presented to students (male or female) enrolled in a secondary collision repair/refinishing technology program who plan to continue their studies at a technical school or college. Each scholarship winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue their postsecondary education in collision repair and a one-year WIN membership.

The deadline for applications is **January 15, 2014**. For scholarship requirement details and submission instructions, go to <http://www.thewomensindustrynetwork.ning.com/> and click on *scholarships*.

SkillsUSA



TWO SkillsUSA MONTANA ADVISORS BECOME CERTIFIED WELDING INSPECTORS (CWI)

Gail Shatkus and **Denise Bordeleau** have completed their training and passed their exam and are now Certified Welding Inspectors. Gail attended the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology this summer. Denise completed her training and passed the exam in November of this year. Although Denise and Gail took the training under different environments, they shared some common advice.

Both Gail and Denise stressed:

- How important the CWE (Certified Welding Educator) training and exams were to their success.
- The need to do extensive study before attending the training.



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- The need to use every learning and test taking strategy you know.
- The need to know how to use the measuring tools for inspection – micrometers, calipers, weld gages, etc.
- The need to study things you are not familiar with like non-destructive testing, weld joint geometry, inspection requirements etc.
- The need to seek out and accept help from those around you; fellow CWIs, CTE teachers, college instructors.
- The need to “Pay it Forward.”

These certifications would not have been possible without the camaraderie, the willingness to share information and others encouraging and working with them to update their skills and bring their welding skills up to today's industry standards.

SkillsUSA information submitted by Montana SkillsUSA State Director, Cassie Huntley, cell phone: (406) 461-5016; Email: casshuntley@montanaskillsusa.com.

Montana TSA HB86 grant has provided the Technology Student Association (TSA) with opportunities we never had before. The TSA team has been putting procedures in place, recruiting new chapters and organizing leadership training for advisors, chapter members and the state officer team.



We have just successfully finished our first membership drive, almost tripling our membership from last year. We added SIX new chapters, with two existing schools adding middle school programs. We welcome the new chapters; Glacier HS, Kalispell; Skyview HS, Billings; Pryor HS, Pryor; Lewis & Clark MS, Billings; Castle Rock MS, Billings; Riverside MS, Billings; Will James MS, Billings and the new middle school programs at Saco and Harlem. We are in the process identifying prospective schools for our next membership drive.

Beside the membership drive some activities that the TSA Team has accomplished are:

- Updated Montana TSA website <https://sites.google.com/site/montanatsa/home>
- Established a state advisory board.
- Assembled state officer handbook.
- Attended and distributed TSA information and promotional material at CTE conference and MEA conference.
- Established corporate membership, thanks go to Freeman/Gaffney Associates, a company that provides professional development, and implements technology innovation in schools.
- Developing a Summer Technology Update Conference for 2014.

The TSA State officer TEAM is busy organizing their first regional leadership training with 7-10 high-line chapters. The officer TEAM will be conducting local chapter officer training along with 3-4 different leadership activities. During this time the chapter advisors will receive training on implementing Pathways in their TSA Programs as well as using and reporting the monthly CTSO Service time sheets from the TSA State Advisors.

Meet the TSA State Officer TEAM...



Trent Noel - President - Harlem Jr/Sr High School

My name is Trent Noel and I am the Montana TSA President. I am a senior at Harlem High School. I am in football, wrestling, track, TSA, FFA and National Honor Society. I am planning on going into Civil-Engineering at Montana State University-Northern in Havre, MT. The tech classes I have taken and the TSA program have helped me better understand the uses of technology in our world. I look forward to serving you as president and hope to make this a fun and exciting year in Montana TSA.



Denton Cornell - Vice-President – Harlem High School

Hello Montana TSA, my name is Denton Cornell and I am a junior at Harlem High School. I have had a great five years in TSA so far and plan to have another great year next year. I am actively involved in football, wrestling, golf, National Honor Society, FFA, and most important TSA. In my free time I love riding dirt bikes,



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snowboarding and snowmobiling. In the future I would love to be the Montana TSA President. TSA has had a huge impact on my life in this technologically advanced world.



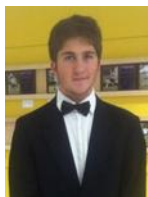
Kourtney Simonson - Secretary - Whitewater Public Schools

My name is Kourtney Simonson from Whitewater High School. I believe that being involved in school organizations and activities not only prepares me for my future, but also allows me to become a better leader among my peers. In my high school years so far, I am apart of Student Council, 4-H, National Honors Society, Pep Club, W Club, French Club, and I am a class officer. Sports I participate in are basketball, volleyball, and track and field. I am very excited for this new adventure and honored to represent Montana as our state secretary.



Colter Lammerding - Treasurer - Saco High School

My name is Colter Lammerding and I am a junior from Saco High School in Saco Montana. When I began high school I wanted to be in as many shop classes I could. I enjoyed wood working but the resources I had at home were not the best for this passion. After being in shop class for one year I heard of TSA, in wanting a new experience I joined in. Since then I have been in TSA for four consecutive years. I live on a cattle ranch ten miles outside of town. I participated in football for two years, track for one years and basketball for four years.



Gus Bornemann - Recorder - Park High School

Hi, TSA, my name is Gus Bornemann and I'm very pumped to be the reporter for TSA this year! I'm a Junior at Park High School in Livingston. Personally, I generally enjoy video games, parkour, and building things. As a fairly active member of the community, I spend a lot of time working, whether that's volunteer or otherwise. Although TSA hasn't been very big here in Livingston, I would love nothing more than to get more people here into it. I look forward to an awesome year with you all!



Andrew Fransen - Sergeant-at-Arms - Glasgow High School

Hi I'm Andrew Fransen, I'm 17 years old, and I'm a junior at Glasgow High School. I've been the treasurer of my TSA club for the last 2 years. I have been the Student Council treasurer for the past 2 years also. I've run cross country for the last 2 years and played baseball since I was 7 years old. My hobbies include hunting, fishing, boating, snowboarding, paintball, and traveling.

TSA information submitted by Montana TSA Co-State Directors, Craig Todd, cell phone: 406.690.2524; Email: craig@crystalcnc.com and Dwight Freeman, cell phone: 406.671.6992; Email: Dwight_freeman@yahoo.com.

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